Summary Part One

There is a young, poor man named d’Artagnan who is traveling across France to hopefully find a better life for himself. In the town of Meung, d’Artagnan picked a fight with a stranger, got knocked unconscious, and had a letter, which was his introduction to M. de Treville the leader of the musketeers, stolen. When d’Artagnan arrived in Paris, he went to find the hotel of de Treville. Finally, he was invited to meet de Treville but before they can speak de Treville’s musketeers Athos, Porthos, and Aramis are called into the room because they were recently arrested for dueling with some guards. When they left, d’Artagnan explains the story of his lost letter which makes de Treville take an interest in him. However, before they can finish their meeting, d’Artagnan sees the man from Meung through the window and rushes out to challenge him. As d’Artagnan is chasing the mysterious man, he ends up losing sight of the mystery man and manages to offend the three musketeers he had met that day. When the schedules duels come around that day, instead of dueling the musketeers d’Artagnan helps to fight alongside them and win a battle against the Cardinal’s men. From that day on, they became inseparable friends.

Analysis

At first it was really hard to get into the book, the way the story is written took me a while to get used to reading and understanding. It was a bit slow at first because not much was really going on to catch my interest. But, I really do enjoy the plot of the story. I love all the silly twists that have been occurring to d’Artagnan. I find him to be such a cute character. I really love his boyish energy and his happy, arrogant attitude all the time.

Application

There are many examples that I’m starting to find using d’Artagnan as the subject. He wants to be successful and have a better life than what his father was able to provide for him, which is why he left his home to hopefully join the ranks of the musketeers. But, because he is a young man, he is very arrogant and is ready to take on any challenge. Even if it means he could lose his life, like when he challenged Athos, Porthos, and Aramis to duels.

Summary Part Two

D’Artagnan’s landlord, Boncieux, comes knocking on his door, asking for assistance to find his abducted wife because she is one of the queen’s servants. D’Artagnan agrees to help him and right after agreeing to help, Bonacieux gets arrested and d’Artagnan lets him. While Bonacieux is in jail, d’Artagnan recuses his wife and ends up falling in love with her. All the while, the Queen is having an affair with the Duke of Buckingham and she ends up giving him a brooch as a symbol of her love to him. The Cardinal finds out about the affair and tells the king to search her for incriminating letters to her lover. When no such letters are found, except for a plot against the Cardinal, the King decides to throw a ball for the Queen to ask for forgiveness but on the condition that she wears the brooch he gave her. Of course, she doesn’t have the brooch and all hope is lost until Madame Bonacieux tells the Queen that she has the man who can retrieve it for her. D’Artagnan is employed for the mission and takes his musketeer friends to help on the mission. After several days of traveling and battling people along the way, d’Artagnan arrives to England and finds the brooch is missing pieces. The brooch is fixed overnight and he travels back to France to deliver the brooch just in time to save the honor of the Queen.

Analysis

When I had gotten to the second section of the book, I had a hard time putting it down. The story had finally got the good parts of a romantic tale mixed in with some adventure. I’m really enjoying d’Artagnan’s growing love for Madame Bonacieux and how he tries so hard for her to return his love. It is also fascinating to find that everyone else is having a love affair in some way or another. I’m excited to see how the d’Artagnan will find Madame Bonacieux.

Application

Devotion to a person is a big part of this section. D’Artagnan shows his devotion to Madame Bonacieux because he is willing to risk his life to travel to England to retrieve a brooch from the Duke of Buckingham. I can also see the devotion of friendship from Athos, Porthos, and Aramis when they all agree to accompany d’Artagnan on his mission. They are all ready to stand alongside d’Artagnan when times get tough.